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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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‘End of Life’ conference March 21 in Little Rock

LITTLE ROCK – The Preserving the Sanctity of Life at the End of Life Conference will be held Saturday, March 21, at the CHI St. Vincent Center for Health Education, No. 2 St. Vincent Circle, Little Rock.

The event, sponsored by Arkansas Right to Life, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Little Rock and Family Council, is a result of the targeting of Arkansas by Compassion and Choices in 2019 to amend the law banning physician-assisted suicide in Arkansas, said Rose Mimms, executive director of Arkansas Right to Life.

Among the speakers featured at the event are Alex Schadenberg, executive director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (epcc.ca) of Ontario, Canada, and Dr. David Smith of Baptist Health Palliative Care in Little Rock. Other speakers are Father Joseph Chan, chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Fort Smith; Dr. Natalie Rodden, palliative medicine physician with St. Anthony North Health in Westminster, Colo., and Father Jason Tyler, a bioethicist with the Diocese of Little Rock.

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition exists to “preserve and enforce legal prohibitions and ethical guidelines prohibiting mercy killing,” and “to increase public awareness of hospice/palliative care,” according to its website.

Mimms said end of life issues is something everyone will eventually face.

“Most of us at some time in our lives will be faced with difficult end of life decisions. This conference will educate our healthcare and patient community that medically assisted suicide is not the answer to the question of those who are elderly, chronically ill or disabled when faced with a life-threatening illness, disease or injury,” said Mimms. “We should never resort to the final solution of ending the effects of the disease by ending the life of the person.”

Mimms added that a resources room will be open to attendees at the event and that the film, *Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death*, will be shown.

Pastors and members of the medical community may attend free of charge. For more information on the event or to register call Mimms at (501) 663-4237 or email artl4237@att.net.

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Arkansas Right to Life is the state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee the oldest and largest pro-life organization. For more information visit <https://artl.org/>.